

REMARKS

Claims 28-44 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Tsuda et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,151,003, hereinafter Tsuda ‘003). Applicants respectfully traverse the rejection because Tsuda ‘003 fails to disclose (or suggest) a liquid crystal display having an alignment assisting material as recited in claim 28, or a method of manufacturing a liquid crystal display that includes an alignment assisting material as recited in claim 41.

More specifically, independent claims 28 and 41 call for an alignment assisting material having a monofunctional monomer and a multifunctional monomer in a mixing ratio of 15:1 to 5:1; a polymerization initiator in a mixing ratio of 2% or less by weight to the amount of monofunctional monomer and multifunctional monomer; and a mixing ratio between the liquid crystal material and the alignment assisting material in the range of 99:1 to 90:10. Tsuda ‘003 is silent regarding these features. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request withdrawal of the §102(b) rejection of independent claims 28 and 41, and their respective dependent claims.

Claims 28-44 stand provisionally rejected under §102(e) as being anticipated by Tsuda ‘066 (U.S. Publication No. 2004/0105066) or Tsuda et al. ‘428 (U.S. Publication No. 2004/0191428). In response, Applicants enclose herewith a verified English translation of Japanese Priority Document No. 2003-094169. The certified copy of this document was filed on March 31, 2003 in Japan. Applicants

respectfully traverse the rejection in view of the perfection of the foreign priority date of March 31, 2003.

Tsuda '066 has a U.S. filing date of November 12, 2003. Tsuda et al. '428 has a U.S. filing date of March 19, 2004. The foreign priority reference of the present application has a filing date of March 31, 2003. Thus, the foreign priority date of the present invention is earlier than the United States filing dates of Tsuda '066 or Tsuda et al. '428. As a claim for foreign priority has been perfected with the filing of the enclosed verified translation, Applicants respectfully request that the §102(e) rejection of claims 28-44 be withdrawn (See MPEP 1201.15).

For all of the foregoing reasons, Applicants submit that this Application is in condition for allowance, which is respectfully requested. The Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned attorney if an interview would expedite prosecution.

Respectfully submitted,

GREER, BURNS & CRAIN, LTD.

By 
Joseph P. Fox
Registration No. 41,760

March 13, 2007
300 South Wacker Drive
Suite 2500
Chicago, Illinois 60606
(312) 360-0080
Customer No. 24978